an integrated programme for self-employment of the rural poor with effect from 1.4.1999.

(b) No targets for creating additional employment opportunities are fixed under SGSY.

(c) and (d) year-wise central allocation of funds of District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) under SGSY and beneficiaries assisted is as under:

Year	Allocation (Rs. in crores)	Beneficiaries assisted
1999-2000	1105.00	9,33,868
2000-2001	1000.00	10,06,152
2001-2002	581.50	9,37,462
2002-2003	567.90	8,20,677
2003-2004	800.00	27,957

Funds for completion of project

1148. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around 9000 projects in the cash-strapped State of Orissa are lying half-way on account of paucity of funds;

(b) whether for want of funds, the State is finding it difficult to go ahead with the construction and this is adding further to the list of half completed projects; and

(c) if so, the assistance rendered by the Centre to help the State to complete all the on-going projects to boost the economy of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) No, Sir. The projects approved by the Ministry of Rural Development under the Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), the Desert Development Programme (DDP), the Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP), the Special Projects under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) and Total Sanitation Compaign (TSC) are mostly being implemented as per the project schedule.

(b) The Ministry has not received any such information from the State Government or the implementing agencies.

(c) Question does not arise.

Relaxation in norms for rural development funds

1149. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in an attempt to make up for the undue delay in releasing funds for various rural development and poverty alleviation programmes, the centre had decided to relax the norms for clearing the second and final instalment during the current fiscal;

(b) if so, what are the main relaxation norms made in the latest order;

(c) by what time these orders will be implemented;

(d) whether rural development funds have been released to all the States; and

(e) if so, to what extent they have been able to implement these schemes after releasing the funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) The matter regarding releasing granting of funds under various Centrally sponsored plan schemes had been under consideration of the Government for sometime and one of the conditions for release of second instalment has been relaxed for the year 2003-04.

(b) It has been decided that the second instalment will be released on utilization of 50%, instead of 60% of the total available funds, other conditions remaining the same.

(c) These orders will be implemented at the time of release of second instalment during the year 2003-04.

(d) The first instalment during the current year has already been released to all eligible District Rural Development Agencies/States.

(e) the Schemes are in the process of implementation.